



# News from Congressman **Tom Lantos**

**12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of California**  
**San Mateo/San Francisco**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**FOR INFORMATION CALL:**  
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## **LANTOS RENEWS DRIVE TO ADD OVER 5,000 ACRES TO GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA** *Reintroduces Bill Passed in House Last Year to Provide Federal Protection to Rancho Corral De Tierra and Devil's Slide*

Washington, D.C. - Congressman Tom Lantos (D-San Mateo/San Francisco) today introduced legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives to expand the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) by over 5,000 acres. The "Rancho Corral De Tierra GGNRA Boundary Adjustment Act", H.R. 532, would provide federal protection to three new coastal areas by including them in the the world's largest urban park.

"The San Mateo coast is one of the most beautiful places on earth, and I am committed to ensure it stays that way. The legislation I introduced in Congress today will expand federal protections to this environmental treasure by expanding the Golden Gate National Recreation Area by over 5,000 acres. Adding these new lands to the GGNRA will provide greater recreational opportunities for the public, preserve the natural habitat of rare plant and wildlife, and protect these fragile areas from encroaching development. We must seize the opportunity to protect these lands before it is too late," Congressman Lantos said.

Congressman Lantos won passage of similar legislation in the House of Representatives last year, but unrelated legislative developments prevented enactment of the bill. The bill Congressman Lantos reintroduced today has nine Bay Area Congressional co-sponsors. Companion legislation was also introduced in the Senate today by California Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer.

"Although we achieved enormous progress last year by passing similar legislation in both houses of Congress, unrelated issues derailed our efforts in the eleventh hour. I am committed to prevail in this Congress and bring to fruition the dream of all Bay Area residents who respect and enjoy our beautiful surroundings," Congressman Lantos said.

The Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST), led by Director Audrey Rust, has made a major contribution to this effort by working to secure private and state funding to cover half the purchase price of the Rancho Corral de Tierra parcel. Congressman Lantos was effusive in his praise for POST's continued campaign to preserve the Peninsula's beautiful coastland environment. In the early 1980's, Congressman Lantos

fought for the inclusion in GGNRA of Sweeney Ridge, and succeeded in doing so in 1984. During the 1990's, he authored and secured passage of legislation to add the Phleger Estate to the GGNRA.